



Serene Surroundings

Designer Julie Hillman creates a calm interior space in harmony with the outdoors.

Set between a quiet pond and the Atlantic Ocean, designer Julie Hillman's latest project balances understated modern design with natural materials, custom millwork and carefully curated pieces, creating a space that feels both refined and effortless. That timeless aesthetic (mixed with an eclectic sensibility) is what New York-based Hillman has become known for, approaching residential design as a collaborative, story-driven process. "I begin by looking for a deep understanding of how my clients live and what they really want," she told *Elle Décor* in early 2025. For this particular home, Hillman set out to create a calm, light-filled retreat that felt connected to its surroundings.

Working with Stelle Lomont Rouhani Architects, Hillman oriented all eight bedrooms toward the ocean and developed a restrained palette of rift white oak, natural hardwoods, cool white Valders stone and soft plaster finishes to echo the coastal landscape. Throughout the home, collectible design and contemporary art — sourced during Hillman's travels — add depth and individuality. One standout? *The Flylight* by Studio Drift, which is suspended above the oceanfront living room. Chosen for its movement and lightness, the piece hovers delicately overhead, adding drama without obstructing sight lines and reinforcing Hillman's interest in design that feels both poetic and purposeful.

THIS PAGE: A PAIR OF THE PEZZI PL19 ARMCHAIRS IN MONGOLIAN LAMBSKIN BY FRANCO ALBINI AND SMALL TABLES BY PHILIPPE HQUILLY AT YVES GASTOU. OPPOSITE PAGE: CHILL DAYBEDS BY GANDIA BLASCO SIT ALONGSIDE PETRIFIED WOOD SIDE TABLES. ALL PHOTOS BY MANOLO YLLERA.







FROM LEFT: BOFFI FURNITURE, HAND-CARVED WOODEN STOOLS AND A 1930S TUBE LIGHT BY RENÉ HERBST FROM GALERIE JACQUES LACOSTE; A MARBLE BATHROOM WITH BOCCI LAMPS; A SHIMNA TEAK BED WITH BUILT-IN BEDSIDE TABLES AND LIGHTHOUSE LAMP BY RONAN & ERWAN BOUROLLEC SIT ATOP A CUSTOM-MADE ALPACA RUG FROM THE RUG COMPANY.

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THIS PAGE (TOP): MARTIN SZEKELY'S CDDR TABLE (2011) FROM GALERIE KREO, FUZZY DUCK CHAIRS BY ROBERTO LAZZERONI FOR CECCOTTI, AYALA SERFATY SOMA LAMPS FROM MAISON GERARD AND A CUSTOM BEAUVAIS CARPETS CASHMERE RUG; (BOTTOM) A VINTAGE RATTAN CHAIR. OPPOSITE PAGE: VIEWS OF — AND FROM — THE PRIMARY BEDROOM.

